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a sheet material disposed between the light source and the second substrate, wherein at least a portion of one edge of the sheet material is not directly under the non-transparent film.

9 — 10 (AMENDED). The liquid crystal display device of claim 1, wherein the sheet material includes a protective sheet, a prism sheet, and a diffusion sheet.

10 — 11 (AMENDED). The liquid crystal display device of claim 10, wherein the first substrate comprises first and second surfaces, the second surface of the first substrate being disposed against the first surface of the second substrate, wherein a non-transparent material is formed on a periphery of the second surface of the first substrate.

14 — 15 (AMENDED). A method of manufacturing a liquid crystal display device for use with a light source, comprising:

providing a first substrate;
13 providing a second substrate having first and second surfaces, wherein the first surface is disposed against the first substrate;
coating a non-transparent film on a periphery of the second surface of the second substrate to substantially block light emitted from the light source; and
disposing a sheet material between the light source and the second substrate, wherein at least a portion of one edge of the sheet material is not directly under the non-transparent film.

15 — 16 (AMENDED). The method of claim 15, wherein the first substrate comprises first and second surfaces, the second surface of the first substrate being disposed against the first surface of the second substrate, wherein a non-transparent material is formed on a periphery of the second surface of the first substrate.

19 — 17. (AMENDED) The method of claim 15, wherein a non-transparent material is formed on a periphery of the first surface of the second substrate.

Please cancel claim 9 without prejudice.

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Office Action of April 3, 2002 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 1, 10, 11, 15, 16, and 17 and cancels claim 9 without prejudice. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of Suzuki et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,739,880).

Independent claim 1 is allowable over the cited art in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a sheet material disposed between the light source and the second substrate, wherein at least a portion of one edge of the sheet material is not directly under the non-transparent film". None of the cited references including AAPA or